

REMARKS

On May 23, 2005, the Examiner mailed an Office Action indicating that claims 25, 27, 32, 34, 40, and 41 were objected to, ostensibly as reciting allowable subject matter but depending from a rejected base claim (Office Action at p. 2). The Examiner also indicated that a terminal disclaimer is required for claim 36 (Office Action at p. 2).

Applicant disagrees with the Board's decision maintaining the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-17, 22-24, 26, 28-31, 33 and 35-39. Nevertheless, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 25, 27, 32, 34, 36, 40, and 41 to be in independent form. During a telephone conference with the Examiner on June 6, 2005, the Examiner indicated that such changes would place this application in condition for allowance. Applicant thanks the Examiner for granting the interview, and for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 25, 27, 32, 34, 36, 40, and 41.

Applicant also disagrees with requirement for a terminal disclaimer with respect to claim 36. Nevertheless, a terminal disclaimer is attached to obviate the rejection.

Dependent claims 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 24, 28, and 42 have also been amended to maintain antecedent basis. Claims 1, 3, 7, 17-23, 26, 29-31, 33, and 38 have been canceled.

Accordingly, claims 2, 4-6, 8-16, 24, 25, 27, 28, 32, 34-37, and 39-42 remain pending. In view of the amendment of claims 25, 27, 32, 34, 36, 40, and 41 in the language agreed to by the Examiner, and further in view of the attached terminal disclaimer, this Application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this amendment be entered and the application allowed.

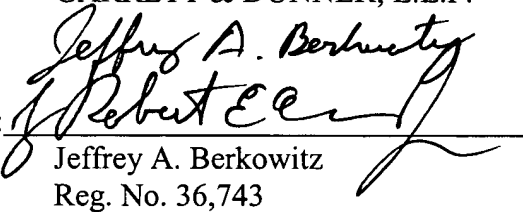
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 23, 2005

By:


Jeffrey A. Berkowitz
Reg. No. 36,743

Attachments: Terminal Disclaimer (3 pages)